

Kanine Korner

By Francis X. Lohmann

Do dogs watch television? Dogs may, but they don't see what we see, which may or may not make them luckier than mere humans.

There are many opinions on the subject of whether or not dogs "view" TV, but most agree that the dog does not see complete images on the screen. His eyes catch the moving black and white patterns. However, it is extremely doubtful that he sees anything more than blurry movement.

The sound of a television set, on the other paw, does catch the dog's attention if it is of a particular kind. The same sounds which make Bowser bark normally may make him bark when he hears them from the TV set. Auto horns, doorbells, knocks, dogs, or high pitched electron noises are all attention getters for canines. Even some human voices can produce howls or "singing" from dogs whose particular sensitivity to sound has been touched.

Many people claim that their dog has a special favorite among television programs, such as the Lassie Show. Again, according to what is currently known, this can be explained by the dog's attraction to the sounds and rather blurred movements of shadowy figures. In this sense, the TV media really is the verbal message.

TRY THIS breed of dog for size! Xoloitzcuintlis! Ever see one? It's a canine curio, indeed. There are just 70 of them registered with the Mexican Kennel Club. Xoloitzcuintlis is pronounced "show-low-eats-queen-lee" or Xolos for short. Dog authorities and researchers are of the opinion that the Xolo accompanied the first migrations of man across the Behring Straits. Clay figures representing this rare dog have been found dating back to several years before Christ.

The Aztec Indians bred these dogs and prized them highly as household pets and bedwarmers. The breed nearly became extinct when Spanish conquerors stupidly slaughtered them indiscriminately.

THE XOLO, though a rarity, has many favorable attributes in his favor. He is intelligent and completely clean, fleasless, odorless and a boon to those who love dogs but are allergic to dog hair.

It is also most interesting to note that the Xolo lacks a complete dentation and is often missing pre-molars and some incisors.

My good friend Valerie Parshall is an avid Xoloitzcuintlis fancier and has the unique distinction of announcing to the canine world the arrival of a litter of four Xolos. Interested readers can contact Valerie Parshall at 407 Willow Vista, Seabrook, Tex.

BARKS AND YAPS — Kennel Club of Riverside basks in the canine spotlight, Sunday, with an all breed dog show and obedience trial at the Fairgrounds in Hemet. Isidore Schoenberg will judge Best Dog in Show . . . Fellow columnist Gary Flinn in writing about dogs once said — "A dog raises man's self-esteem, he flatters man by telling him he's wonderful, worth working for, good company, and positively brilliant — and man believes it . . ."

Alice Wagner, one of America's most dynamic names in canine fourth-estating, has resigned her position as editor of the nationally circulated Popular Dogs Magazine. Alice Wagner is one of my favorite people. God love her!

BREED OF THE WEEK



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Schipperke . . . The Schipperke is of Belgian origin and his name is Flemish for "little captain." He fell heir to this unusual name because for generations he has been the popular watchdog for the Flemish canal boats and barges.

It is most interesting to note that the first specialty show ever given for any breed was held in the year 1690 at the Grand Palace in Brussels, at which the Schipperkes competed.

The Schipperke's silhouette is most distinctive, bearing little resemblance to that of any other breed.

His head is foxy in outline and his expression is mischievous, lively and alert. His dependability as a watchdog made him invaluable to his Belgian owners at the time their country was occupied by the Nazis during World War II.

PEOPLE fortunate enough to own one of these little dogs could safely stay indoors listening to forbidden British and American radio broadcasts as the Skip stood guard outside ready to give instant alarm at the approach of an enemy footstep.

The career of the Schipperke in America has had its ups and downs of fancier interest. In 1929 a group of dedicated breeders formed the Schipperke Club of America. This organization has

Red Cross Conference Scheduled

Four area college students will carry top leadership roles at the annual fall Red Cross college conference Friday through Sunday in Riverside.

An estimated 100 delegates from 23 colleges in Los Angeles County will be joined by another 20 from campuses throughout California and Arizona to exchange program ideas and explore new areas of community service.

Karen Landreth, El Camino College, is secretary for the conference.

Dave Kingsland, California State College, Dominguez Hills; Nolan Noble, El Camino; and Paul Berge, Loyola University, are members of the planning committee for the meeting, which opens with a dinner meeting Friday evening and concludes following the noon meal Sunday.

All those holding leadership roles for the conference are members of the Los Angeles Red Cross College Board.

This will be the first year that Northrop Institute in Inglewood and California State College, Dominguez Hills, will be represented at the conference.

Listen to Francis X. Lohmann's radio version of Kanine Korner, Monday through Friday at 4:30 p.m. over Station KTYM, 1460 Kes.

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NOVEMBER 2-4

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